

SELECTBOARD MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, February 21, 2023, 5:30 p.m, Old Schoolhouse Common and Zoom

Present: Selectboard members Richard Baker, Christopher Martin, and Michele Gonzales;
Visitors: Nancy Everhart, Douglas Glover, Michael Sabourin, David Herring, Henry Harris

At 5:33 p.m. the meeting was called to order by Chair Chris Martin

Changes or additions to the agenda: Food Shelf Cooler, Nasmith Road and Twinfield Driveway intersection.

Public Comment: Henry Harris requested to talk about the complaint filed against his operations of a camp. The Selectboard said they were advised by the town attorney that such discussions should include his attorney, himself, the town attorney and at least one Selectboard member.

Minutes: The Board approved the minutes of the February 7, 2023, as drafted.

Stranahan Forest Committee – projects and budget: Nancy Everheart presented a proposed budget for the Stranahan Forest Committee. \$1200 was proposed for a sign at Pitkin Farm entrance and for trail maintenance materials. The Selectboard approved the \$1200 request. Another \$400 was proposed for contracted snow clearing at the Jake Martin Road parking lot. The town trucks cannot currently access this lot to do snow clearing. Discussion occurred regarding what would need to be done to make it possible for town trucks to clear this lot. Rich will contact the road crew to find out whether improvements could be made to this lot to allow town trucks to do the snow clearing. Another \$750 was requested for brush hogging various areas in the town forest. The Selectboard agreed that bushhogging was needed at the town forest and also at Covered Bridge Park. It was recommended to leave this on future agendas as old business and that the town considered having a contracted services to do brush hogging. Last, Nancy explained that the committee was still discussing the road status of Thompson Road and would come back with a recommendation regarding re-classifying the Class 4 road portion to legal trail.

Dog complaint – yellow lab in Village: Amy Adams came in to license her dog Max today. Animal control has contacted Ms. Adams about the dog running loose in the village. The issue of the dog running loose seems to have been adequately addressed by Animal Control and Bobbi. David Herring, who resides near the Adams residence, said the dog has been running loose and that he will report back if the problem continues.

Recreation Grant Opportunities: Rich explained various recreation grants available including the NPS technical services, the Northern Forest Center sustainable Vermont Trails Grant

Program, and the AARP Community Challenge Grant Program. He also explained the Vermont Health Department technical assistance grant program potentially available to assist with studying the village walkability and streetscape. None of the grant programs or technical assistance require local matches. The Selectboard approved applying for all of the grants.

Green Burial Rules adoption: Rich reviewed the green burial rules. Chris moved to adopt the rules as prepared. Seconded by Michele. Approved 3-0.

Accessibility of OSC for voting: The Selectboard agreed to having Johnson Paving to pave the area around the drop box. The Selectboard viewed how the threshold was too high to meet ADA standards. It was recommended to see if Johnson Paving could cut out the existing paving near the door and resurface it to make it even with the bottom of the door. Rich will investigate options regarding striping the ADA parking spaces.

Certificate of Highway Miles: The Board approved the Certificate of Miles as presented.

Food Shelf Cooler: The Selectboard recommended that Bobbi remind the Food Shelf manager that he must obtain all required state permits before proceeding.

Nasmith Road and Twinfield Driveway intersection: Michelle commented that the Nasmith Road and Twinfield driveway intersection has potholes. She will contact the road crew to let them know about the problem.

Town Meeting discussions (ARPA, recreation planning, lunch): The Selectboard decided that it would be easiest to not have a lunch at town meeting and to post a notice on Front Porch Forum the week before the meeting so that people could bring a bag lunch. Melissa Seifert will be contacted to let her know that lunch will not be needed. Melissa is welcome to have coffee and breakfast treats as a fundraiser at the meeting. The Selectboard requested that Bobbi work up a list of the current ARPA expenditures and the tentatively approved expenditures for presentation at the meeting. Rich said he would like to briefly discuss the recreation planning efforts.

Expenses, Permits & Payroll: Selectboard members read and approved reports for General Expenses and Payroll.

The meeting adjourned at 7:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Richard Baker, Selectboard member

The foregoing is a true copy of the Minutes of the February 21 Selectboard Meeting.
A True Record. Attest, _____, Town Clerk
